

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Hiroaki TOOYAMA
Appl. No.: 10/597,072
Filed: July 10, 2006
For: **DAMPING DEVICE**

Confirmation No.: 5611
Art Unit: 1645
Examiner: To Be Assigned
Atty. Docket: 2261.0050000

Information Disclosure Statement

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying IDS Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Copies of the documents are enclosed.

Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached IDS Form PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent

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application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

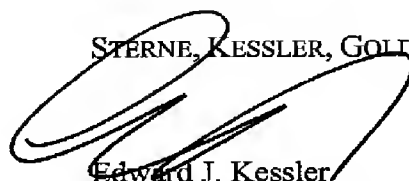
Documents FP1-FP4 were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart PCT application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided as document NPL1 in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed IDS Form PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: December 15, 2006

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Atty. Dkt. No. 2261.0050000

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /M.S./

FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 2261.0050000		APPLICATION No. 10/597,072	
				FIRST NAMED INVENTOR David F. SORRELLS		ART UNIT 1645	
				FILING DATE July 10, 2006			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOC. REF.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	US						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOC. REF.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
/M.S./	FP1	JP 11-264270 A	09/1999	Inaga			No
/M.S./	FP2	JP 5-317133 A	12/1993	Nakayama			No
/M.S./	FP3	JP 2000-220341 A	08/2000	Suzuki <i>et al.</i>			No
/M.S./	FP4	JP 7-269221 A	10/1995	Shibuya			No
NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOC. REF.	CITATION					
	NPL1	English Translation of International Preliminary Report on Patentability, for PCT Application Number PCT/JP2004/015269, filed October 15, 2004, 5 pages.					
	NPL						
	NPL						
	NPL						
	NPL						
EXAMINER /Matthew Sullivan/					DATE CONSIDERED 04/10/2009		
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.							